

(b) The policy covers housing as well as other habitat issues. The main objective of the policy is shelter for all; it is gender sensitive, it has envisaged a facilitating approach through removal of legal and financial constraints and also through technology intervention. The policy encourages the role of co-operatives and public-private partnerships objective.

(c) to (e) Housing is a State subject. Central Government's focus is addressed towards formulating policy and providing broad guidelines to States. It is for the State Governments to actually implement the policy and to draw action plans to address the housing problems in their States. As a follow up of the National Housing & Habitat Policy, Government have initiated several facilitating steps. The Urban Land Ceiling Act has been repealed; fiscal incentives under the Income Tax Act and in customs and excise duties have been secured in Union Budgets and technology transfer is being done through a network of building centres throughout the country.

Steps to make PM House earthquake resistant

516. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister House at Race Course, New Delhi is earthquake resistant;

(b) if so, upto what richter scale it can withstand the shock; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken to make it cent-per-cent earthquake resistant?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) The present Housing Complex of the Hon'ble Prime Minister at Race Course Road was build in 1930s with mud mortar. In those days there were no specific provision for making the building earthquake resistant. However, no serious damages were noticed in these buildings during the last major earthquake in the year 1958 in Delhi.

(c) A Technical Committee has been set up by the Ministry to look into the safety aspects of these buildings and suggest remedial measures, if required.

Corruption in releasing Form 'D' to CGHS

517. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will, the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state: